



Animal Care Commission

INFORMATION CALENDAR

June 11, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dr. Dianne Sequoia, Chair, Animal Care Commission
Submitted by: Amelia Funghi, Manager, Animal Services
Subject: Animal Care Commission 2019 Work Plan

INTRODUCTION

In a general meeting held on March 20, 2019 the Animal Care Commission adopted work plan for 2019 (M/S/C: Ayes: Elbasani, Shumer, Sequoia, Stevens. Noes: None. Absent: O'Day, Elkhoraibi) which is presented below.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The top priorities of the Animal Care Commission for 2019 are as follows:

1. Infrastructure:

A. Obtain permission to enclose an area close to the animal shelter suitable for training and exercising shelter dogs. The area under the pedestrian bridge leading to the Berkeley City Marina would be a possible location.

2. Advocacy

A. Homeless people and their pets - Continue to support efforts to ensure that pets are not separate from their companions. Make available food and other supplies that will enable all people in need to keep their pets with them, particularly in times of stress.

B. Pet Friendly Housing - Bring to the attention of Berkeley's City Council Members, the city's administrators and landlords the need for pet-friendly housing. Examples of other cities efforts to ensure adequate pet-friendly housing should be obtained and forwarded to the relevant groups.

C. In Berkeley we share our living space with a number of other animal species: Turkeys, Coyotes, Skunks, Opossums, Raccoons, and perhaps a mountain lion, or two. It is important that we keep the human population aware of the presents of these animals and how best to deal with their presence among us through education.

The ACC will work with other commissions, including Parks & Waterfront Commission, the Public Works Commission, and non-profit organizations involved in these issues in Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

The Animal Care Commission (ACC) meets six (6) times per year with the mission of overseeing the treatment of animals in all shelters established within Berkeley. The ACC advises the council on the care, treatment and control of animals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The ACC and the Animal Services Manager will research options and associated costs to establish an area suitable for training and exercising shelter dogs. The ACC will research ways to assist homeless pet owners to secure housing. The ACC will also research and implement practical means to increase pet-friendly housing in Berkeley.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

The ACC will research information regarding the cost of establishing an area suitable for training and exercising shelter dogs as well as possible sources of funding.

CONTACT PERSON

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